IN BLUE AND WHITE

FREE

the official match magazine of the South Melbourne Soccer Club

February Edition

Brazil - One Year On...
Rosemount Estate Joins the South
David Clarkson's 200th NSL Match

EST. 1959
SOUTH MELBOURNE S.C.

season 2000-2001

ROUND 17	PERTH GLORY, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4
ROUND 19	MARCONI STALLIONS, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

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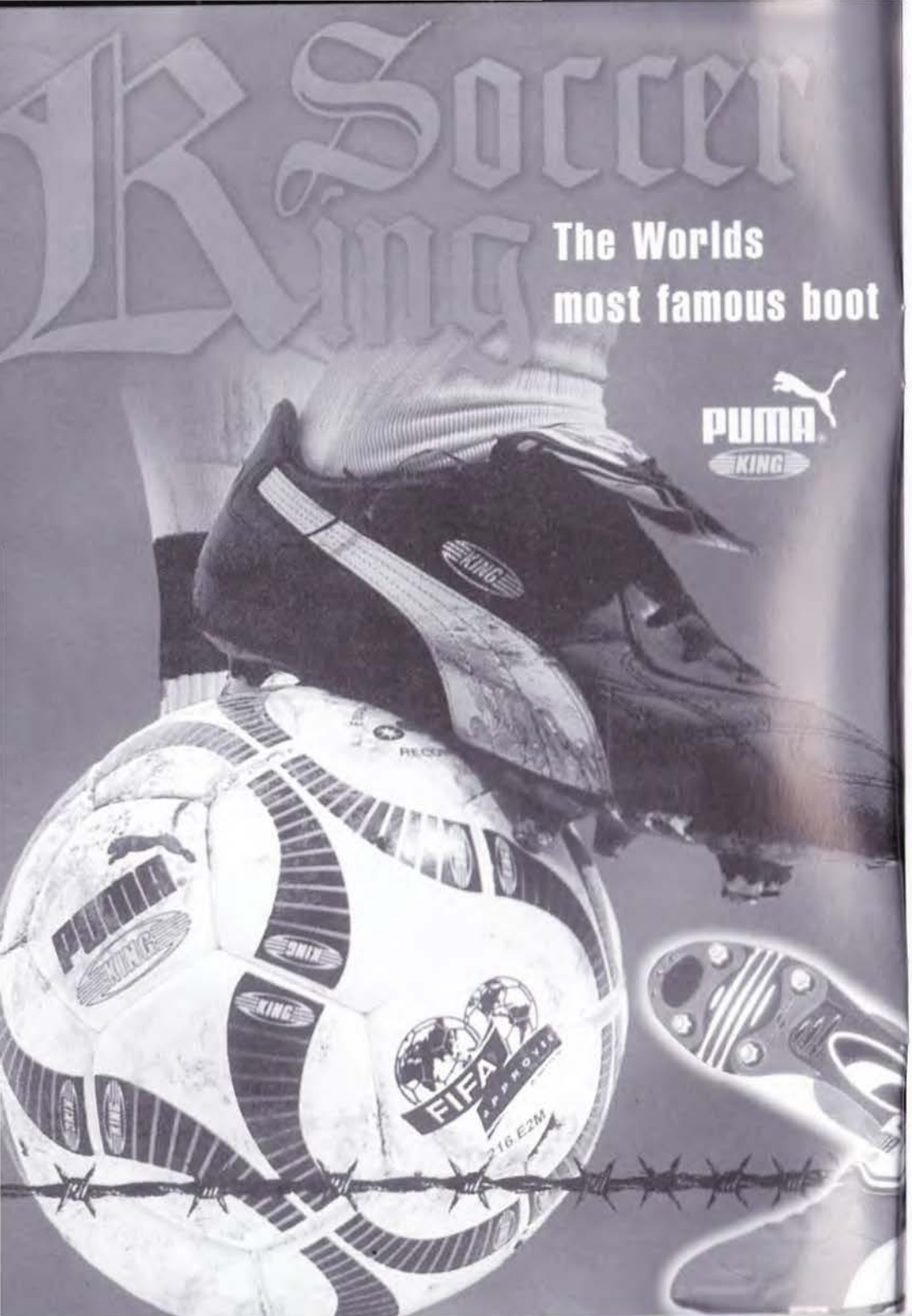

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the February edition of In Blue and White. This month at the Bob Jane Stadium, we take on two of the inform teams of the competition in Perth Glory and Marconi. These two clashes promise to be the best yet seen this season at the Bob Jane Stadium. Welcome to both Bernd Stange and Perth Glory, and Eddie Krncevic and the Marconi Stallions.

Of late there has been a lot of comment regarding the state of soccer in this country, particularly the National Soccer League. A number of people, including Jeff Kennett, Robbie Slater and certain sections of the media, have come out and spoken of their concerns regarding the state of play in the NSL and the need for sweeping changes to occur.

For some people these comments could be construed as destructive and detrimental to the game. Others, however, may construe these comments as constructive and illustrates that these people genuinely care for the game and want to see the game that they love thrive and prosper here in Australia.

We all agree that there needs to be reform within the game in this country. That process has begun with the reformation of the NSL next season with the reduction of fifteen teams to twelve. However the game still needs further reforms because just simply reducing teams will not install confidence with the business, media and general community sectors.

Currently the game is hardly seen on television, particularly free to air, has reasonable coverage in the print media and very limited coverage on commercial radio. How NSL clubs are expected to survive, particularly in attracting national and multi-national businesses to sponsor and develop partnerships when there is currently very little exposure is amazing.

A number of clubs, especially recently, have unfortunately folded due to the difficulties in maintaining an NSL club. For the game and the clubs to not only survive, but also prosper, it needs strong leadership from the top. It needs to be able to attract large business corporations to invest in the game. It needs to be able to work closely with its media partners, particularly Channel 7, to ensure increased exposure and quality of programs.

We, that is the game and the clubs, need the leaders of the game to not only be able to compete with the other sports here in Australia, but to also offer businesses, media and spectators the opportunity to take advantage of something that our competitors can not, that soccer is the world game and is viewed by over one billion people. When people can see this, then the great game that we all love will truly thrive here in Australia

George Vasilopoulos
President

COACH'S REPORT

Beating Adelaide City at home proved to be one of my toughest tasks as South Melbourne coach. It's never easy playing against the Force, who always give their all, especially against South. In the end we got the desired result and I was extremely pleased with the boys performance, who once again, showed grit and determination to secure all three points.

Over the last few weeks the squad have faced some sturdy opposition and February 4 will be no exception, as Perth visit Bob Jane Stadium. This top of the table clash will be an entertaining encounter and I can assure you one not to miss. Perth is the only side to defeat us and we look forward to avenging for our loss at Perth Oval, earlier this season.

South's long time rivals, Marconi, is a side that is slowly growing as a serious finals contender, their results of late, have been positive and they will prove to be no easy beats come February 18.

After the mid point of the season, I am pleased with the team's performances. Our achievements on the park are not possible without the involvement of the football operations at Lakeside. I feel that they have played a major role in the team's success so far and would like to thank them for their durable hours and hard work.

The job is only half done and I can assure you we won't rest until the championship trophy is brought back to Australia's most famous club, South Melbourne.

Mike Petersen
Senior Coach

Notice

1. Entry inside the perimeter fence of the playing area is prohibited at all times and offenders will be prosecuted.
2. All spectators are requested to vacate the ground within 15 minutes of the final game.
3. Police may be requested to remove any unauthorised persons who remain after the stipulated time.
4. The setting alight of, or the igniting or discharging of any type of object, including fireworks, signal or smoke flares is strictly prohibited.

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The big day finally arrived and after all the anticipation, South was about to show the world what Australian club football had to offer.

Some neutral supporters around us were rather surprised, constantly telling me that South was a pretty good side.

Brazil 2000 - 1 year on

Last week, Wollongong Wolves qualified for the second Club World Championship, to be held in Spain later this year. It has been just over a year since the inaugural championships and although much has been written on the event in this publication, this is the first ever in-depth analysis of what was an amazing experience for the South Melbourne Soccer Club.

Leading up to the tournament, it seemed everyone was convinced South were going to be at the wrong end of some cricket scores against clubs of the calibre of Vasco de Gama and Manchester United. It would seem that few, if any, gave us any chance.

Prior to the first game against Vasco, many of the Rio locals laughed at any suggestion South would even trouble the likes of Romario, Edmundo and Junior Baiano.

Manchester United themselves didn't seem too worried about their opponents from down under either. In the pre-tournament press conference, most of the attention seemed to focus on the European Champions taking on the best of South America on its own territory and in the middle of an extremely hot and hostile Maracana.

When Sir Alex Ferguson was quizzed about South, he simply stated that he didn't know too much about them, although he did see a video but not a very good one. They were going to watch South's first game against Vasco de Gama and take it from there. Sir Alex's demeanour showed little respect for their Aussie opponents, as he quite simply didn't seem to care.

South's first training session on the Maracana probably did little to spark confidence in the onlooking South faithful. Early in the session, players looked excited as they also posed for photos and understandably seemed overawed by the prospects of playing in the world famous arena.

With the game against Vasco getting nearer, there was an ever-growing buzz in Rio. South were on the front pages of the papers and comments were being made about Kiwi international Vaughan Coveny being amongst the Kangaroos.

The players were becoming almost as big as rock stars. This was no more evident than when they took a stroll along the Copacabana Beach, where they had women constantly approaching them, telling them how good looking they were and all the Flamengo (Vasco's arch rivals) supporters encouraging them, whilst receiving the expected antics from the Vasco fans.

The big day finally arrived and after all the anticipation, South was about to show the world what Australian club football had to offer. On the way to the ground, both the players' and supporters' buses were easily identified by the masses heading towards the stadium. Most were not too shy in showing how they thought the result was going to go, constantly showing us six or seven fingers and I'm sure they didn't mean the score would be 5-2!

On entering the stadium, the electric sensation was one none of us had previously felt before any game. Most South fans were seated near the Manchester United fans and watched in amazement as the North American Champions Necaxa outplayed United, with Beckham receiving a red card, yet somehow United scraping a 1-1 draw (both teams missing penalties).

By the time the main game started between Vasco de Gama and South Melbourne, the Vasco fans were creating the most amazing atmosphere for which Brazilians are rightly famous. The task at hand for South Melbourne was going to be anything but easy.

The first 45 minutes were brilliant - not only had South managed to keep the South American Champions scoreless, but they were playing arguably the best football in the forty years of the South Melbourne Soccer Club. The crowd was stunned, becoming quieter as the half went on. Some neutral supporters around us were rather surprised, constantly telling me that South was a pretty good side.

It took an amazing goal by Felipe early in the second half to give the Brazilians the lead. This was followed by the most amazing crowd celebrations I will ever experience. Although

feeling extremely disappointed that South had finally conceded, I couldn't help but laugh that the same Vasco fans who thought their team would win seven nil, were now ecstatic to score a goal against South Melbourne.

Despite conceding the goal, all the South players stuck to their guns. Jones, Liparoti and Curcija in particular were in amazing form. Then came what will probably be the most talked about incident in South's history. With only minutes remaining, a throw in from Con Blatsis was headed on to Steve Panopoulos who, with Junior Baiano closing down on him, was left with only the keeper to beat. It is well known now that the headed ball looped ominously over the cross bar, but that moment will be entrenched in our memories forever. Had Panopoulos managed to equalise, I believe the result would have made headlines in every soccer publication around the world.

Eventually Vasco sealed the game with a classic Edmundo goal, but South Melbourne and Australian soccer had now earned the praise of everyone who witnessed the game, particularly the harshest judges themselves, the football media.

Speaking to Panopoulos at the team hotel after the game, he was quite disappointed at the result. Although he understood what the team had achieved, he really thought the game was there for the taking and felt gutted at the 2-0 defeat. He also ran through his headed chance at goal, saying that he was sufficiently calm that he didn't rush the header, but simply didn't execute the header as he would have liked.

The next day the papers were full of coverage of the game and particular emphasis was paid to Robert Liparoti, as well as showing photos of the South faithful.

Talking to Ange Postecoglou, he was quite pleased with the way the players performed, giving special praise to the trio of Jones, Liparoti and Curcija, yet was disappointed that they hadn't got a result. He was wary of the upcoming game against Necaxa, saying they were a formidable side and just as good as our other two opponents. The club doctor stated that quite a few of the players were dehydrated due to the heat during the game, many losing two or three kilos. Chris Jones in particular suffered the worse and was afflicted with cramps.

Game two was against the surprise package of the tournament, Necaxa. The game followed the much anticipated clash between Vasco de Gama and Manchester United, which saw the Brazilians run out 3-1 victors, mostly thanks to two shocking back passes from Gary Neville, which led to two of the goals.

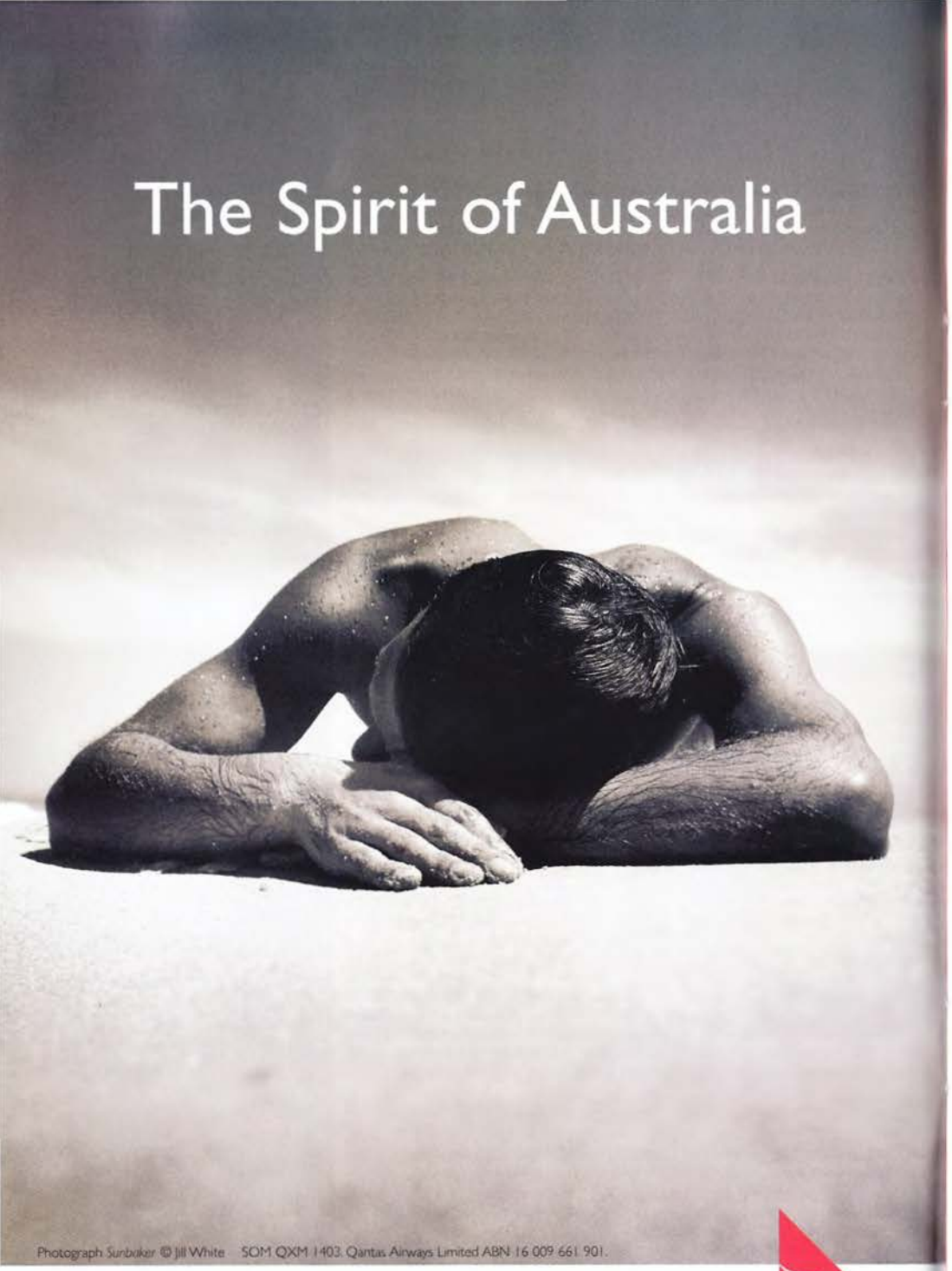
It was a sluggish start for the team, conceding two dubious penalties within the first twenty minutes. Fortunately only one was converted, but Necaxa were outplaying South Melbourne and deservedly scored a second in open play, sparking a mass exodus of the few thousand Vasco supporters who had stayed back to watch the game.

It was only after conceding the second that South started to show the form that earned them such respect against Vasco. Suddenly passes were flowing and a goal seemed inevitable. A great run from Iosifidis led to a foul on the goal line, just outside the penalty area. The resultant free kick was headed by Con Blatsis and then nodded on by John Anastasiadis for South's only goal of the tournament and the first goal an Australian club side had scored in a World Championship tournament.

(continued on page 12)

It was only after conceding the second that South started to show the form that earned them such respect against Vasco.

The Spirit of Australia



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TRIVIA QUESTIONS

1. What position did South finish at the end of the 1992/93 home and away season?
2. Who scored Souths only goal of the 1992/93 finals series?
3. Who scored the winning goal for Marconi in the 1992/93 Grand Final
4. Who was the coach to succeed Ferenc Puskas?
5. Which former South player of was captain of the Australian team in the World Youth Championships in 1993?
6. Which Wollongong Wolves player scored the winning goal I the recent Oceania Club Championships?
7. Which Former South defender recently joined Canberra Cosmos?
8. For which English first division club was Con Blatsis recently loaned to from Derby County?
9. Who scored South's two goals in the recent game against Northern Spirit?
10. How many games has South won at North Sydney Oval?

Note: Answers to Trivia Questions on page 24

The second half was even, with both teams enjoying periods of dominance and South were looking good for an equaliser. In the end it wasn't to be, and a late third penalty was conceded, finishing the game 3-1 in Necaxa's favour.

The mood on the team bus was one of a team that was devastated by the result, captain Paul Trimboli stating that he thought it was embarrassing. In hindsight, however, when you take into account the football Necaxa played against the likes of Manchester United and Real Madrid and the fact that the referee didn't exactly do South any favours, the effort was more than respectable.

Between taking on the best of North America and Europe, the players finally got a rest day where they could do something other than training at Flumenese's ground and sitting around the hotel playing cards (and Game Boy!) They managed a bit of sightseeing amongst the breathtaking sights of Rio, including the Statue of the Christ Redeemer and the picturesque Sugar Loaf.

We all knew back home that the Manchester United game was the one everyone was waiting for - after all, there are more United fans in Australia than you can poke a stick at. We all knew that a good result against United would be a great achievement. Coach Ange Postecoglou was already relatively pleased with the first two games, but knew that a bad result against United could undo all that in a matter of 90 minutes.

Although much was said about the weakened United line up, nearly all players were current or former international players and with many of them rested and having a point to prove as far as their permanent positions, it was never going to be an easy match.

Again South started sluggishly and with Quintin Fortune having a day out, scoring two early goals, the danger signs were there. But the longer the game went on, the better South looked. It was an amazing sight seeing South Melbourne play such skilful and entertaining football against players of the calibre of Beckham and Cole, rarely if ever looking out of place on the same playing field.

The Vasco fans got right behind South in the second half and with continued attacks, it seemed inevitable that South would score. If the first two matches were to be remembered for the Panopoulos header and the Anastasiadis goal, then this match will always be remembered for Vaughan Coveny's shot that hit the left post, only to see the ball roll along the goal line, hit the other post and roll back into play. It was the cruellest of fates and I guess all South fans and particularly Coveny himself will never forget how close that was. Coveny's luck was not just limited to that, he was also dubiously called offside when he seemed to have broken the offside trap and was clear for a shot at goal.

In the end though, 2-0 was a fair result and we finished the tournament on a high. FIFA president Sepp Blatter himself was also impressed with South's achievements, making a point of this at a post tournament Press Conference where he praised the performances of our club.

The tournament now is one of fond but distant memories, but it truly was the experience of a lifetime. Getting first-hand experience of the atmosphere created by the Brazilian football fans was amazing in itself, even the well-travelled Manchester United supporters said they had never experienced such an atmosphere anywhere in Europe. As a lifelong South supporter, how could I have ever dreamed I would ever see South reach such a peak? The hard work now is to try and emulate that achievement in any future Club World Championship.

We wish Wollongong Wolves the best of luck in Spain and hope that their achievements equal and better those of South Melbourne SC. But we at South Melbourne take great pride in the fact we played an important role in making the first tournament a success and made sure that Oceania would play its part in future tournaments.

Peter Kartsidimas

2000-2001 Season Fixture

R	Date	Day	Opponent	Time	Venue
1	13.10.00	Fri	Adelaide City Force	W 3-1	Vlahos 2, Kalogerakos
2	21.10.00	Sat	Perth Glory	L 0-1	-
3	29.10.00	Sun	Carlton	D 1-1	Susa
4	04.11.00	Sat	Marconi Stallions	D 1-1	Trimboli
5	12.11.00	Sun	Melbourne Knights	W 4-1	Trimboli 2, Panopoulos Boutsianis
6	19.11.00	Sun	Brisbane Strikers	W 3-0	Vlahos 3
7	26.11.00	Sun	Parramatta Power	D 1-1	Anastasiadis
8	02.12.00	Sat	Canberra Cosmos	W 3-1	Coveny, Trimboli Lozanovski
9	10.12.00	Sun	Wollongong Wolves	W 4-2	Trimboli, Vlahos, Lozanovski, Boutsianis
10	15.12.00	Fri	Newcastle United	D 0-0	-
11	23.12.00	Sat	Sydney United	W 3-0	Vlahos, Coveny, Susa
12	30.12.00	Sat	Sydney Olympic	W1-0	Coveny
13	06.01.01	Sat	Eastern Pride	D 0-0	-
14	14.01.01	Sun	Auckland Kingz	W 3-0	Trimboli, Kalogeracos Coveny
15	19.01.01	Fri	Northern Spirit	W 2-1	Kalogeracos, Coveny
16	28.01.01	Sun	Adelaide City Force	W 1-0	De Amicis
17	04.02.01	Sun	Perth Glory	5:00pm	Bob Jane Stad
18	11.02.01	Sun	Carlton	TBA	TBA
19	18.02.01	Sun	Marconi Stallions	5:00pm	Bob Jane Stad
20	25.02.01	Sun	Melbourne Knights	6:00pm	Knights Stad
21	04.03.01	Sun	Brisbane Strikers	6:00pm	Suncorp Stad
22	11.03.01	Sun	Parramatta Power	4:00pm	Parramatta Stad
23	18.03.01	Sun	Canberra Cosmos	5:00pm	Bob Jane Stad
24	23.03.01	Fri	Wollongong Wolves	7:30pm	WIN Stad
25	01.04.01	Sun	Newcastle United	5:00pm	Bob Jane Stad
26	08.04.01	Sun	Sydney United	5:00pm	Bob Jane Stad
27	16.04.01	Mon	Sydney Olympic	6:30pm	Belmore Sports Gnd
28	22.04.01	Sun	Eastern Pride	5:00pm	Bob Jane Stad
29	25.04.01	Wed	Auckland Kingz	7:30pm	Ericsson Stad
30	29.04.01	Sun	Northern Spirit	3:00pm	Bob Jane Stad

SOUTH MELBOURNE LINE-UP

1. Michael Petkovic GK
2. Steve Iosifidis
3. Fausto de Amicis
4. Mehmet Durakovic
5. Robert Liparoti
6. David Clarkson
7. Steve Panopoulos
8. Vaughan Coveny
9. Paul Trimboli
10. Con Boutsianis
11. John Anastasiadis
12. Richie Alagich
13. Andy Vlahos
14. Vas Kalogerakos
15. Goran Lozanovski
17. Rade Culibrk
18. Elias Demourtzidis
19. Patrick Kisnorbo
20. Chris Jones GK
21. Massimo Murdocca
22. Steve Esposito
23. Michael Theoklitos GK
24. Nick Tolios
25. Simon Colosimo

Coach: Mike Petersen

Assistant Coach: Jeff Olver

SOUTH MELBOURNE S.C. 2000/2001 PLAYER PROFILES

PAUL TRIMBOLI
Position: Striker
Born: 25/02/69
Height: 173 cm
Weight:: 72 kg
Last club: Sunshine GC
Nickname: Trimmers
Shirt number: 9

CHRIS JONES
Position: Goalkeeper
Born: 10/07/75
Height: 188 cm
Weight: 88 kg
Last club: Karingal United
Nickname: Jonesy
Shirt number: 20

STEVE PANOPOULOS
Position: Midfielder
Born: 23/06/75
Height: 169 cm
Weight:: 68 kg
Last club: Oakleigh (VIS)
Nickname: Pana
Shirt number: 7

JOHN ANASTASIADIS
Position: Striker
Born: 13/08/68
Height: 179 cm
Weight: 78 kg
Last club: PAOK (Greece)
Nickname:
Shirt number: 11

VAUGHAN COVENY
Position: Striker
Born: 13/12/71
Height: 188 cm
Weight:: 84 kg
Last club: Wollongong
Nickname: Kiwi
Shirt number: 8

GORAN LOZANOVSKI
Position: Midfielder
Born: 11/01/74
Height: 180 cm
Weight: 88 kg
Last club: Collingwood
Nickname: Loza
Shirt number: 15

FAUSTO DE AMICIS
Position: Defender
Born: 26/06/68
Height: 170 cm
Weight: 65 kg
Last club: Melbourne Knights
Nickname:
Shirt number: 3

ROBERT LIPAROTI
Position: Defender
Born: 02/04/78
Height: 193 cm
Weight: 89 kg
Last club: Bulleen
Nickname: Lipa
Shirt number: 5

STEVE IOSIFIDIS
Position: Defender
Born: 28/12/73
Height: 184 cm
Weight: 75 kg
Last club: Heidelberg UTD
Nickname: Yosa
Shirt number: 2

ANDY VLAHOS
Position: Striker
Born: 20/04/76
Height: 171 cm
Weight: 70 kg
Last club: Panathinaikos (Greece)
Nickname: -
Shirt number: 13

DAVID CLARKSON
Position: Midfielder
Born: 01/02/68
Height: 176 cm
Weight: 70 kg
Last club: Happy Valley (HK)
Nickname: Clarky
Shirt number: 6

RICHIE ALAGICH
Position: Midfielder
Born: 30/10/73
Height: 178 cm
Weight: 74 kg
Last club: Adelaide Sharks
Nickname: Gich
Shirt number: 12

RADE CULIBRK
Position: Defender
Born: 19/07/82
Height: 175 cm
Weight: 72 kg
Last club: Springvale
Nickname: Culi
Shirt number: 17

MICHAEL PETKOVIC
Position: Goalkeeper
Born: 18/07/75
Height: 190 cm
Weight: 88 kg
Last Club: Strasbourg (France)
Nickname: Petka
Shirt number: 1

ELIAS DEMOURTZIDIS
Position: Striker
Born: 25/06/81
Height: 182 cm
Weight: 79 kg
Last club: Adelaide Sharks
Nickname: El
Shirt number: 18

VAS KALOGERACOS
Position: Striker
Born: 21/03/75
Height: 175 cm
Weight: 71 kg
Last club: Perth Glory
Nickname: -
Shirt number: 14

MEHMET DURAKOVIC
Position: Defender
Born: 13/10/65
Height: 176 cm
Weight: 74 kg
Last Club: Eastern Pride
Nickname: Ugsie
Shirt number: 4

NICK TOLIOS
Position: Defender
Born: 11/10/81
Height: 184 cm
Weight: 83 kg
Last Club: Ethnikos (Greece)
Nickname: Toli
Shirt number: 24

PATRICK KISNORBO
Position: Defender
Born: 24/03/81
Height: 185 cm
Weight: 75 kg
Last Club: South Melbourne
Nickname: Arab
Shirt number: 19

MICHAEL THEOKLITOS
Position: Goalkeeper
Born: 11/02/81
Height: 188 cm
Weight: 84 kg
Last Club: Bulleen
Nickname: -
Shirt number: 23

CON BOUTSIANIS
Position: Striker
Born: 27/12/71
Height: 181 cm
Weight: 75 kg
Last Club: Bolton Wanderers (UK)
Nickname: Boutsi
Shirt number: 10

SIMON COLOSIMO
Position: Defender
Born: 08/01/79
Height: 184 cm
Weight: 75kg
Last Club: Carlton
Nickname: Shima
Shirt number: 25

ZELJKO SUSA
Position: Midfielder
Born: 13/07/78
Height: 186 cm
Weight: 85 kg
Last Club: Melbourne Knights
Nickname: Sus
Shirt number: 16

STEVE ESPOSITO
Position: Defender
Born: 08/01/84
Height: 185 cm
Weight: 72 kg
Last Club: Carlton
Nickname: Espo
Shirt number: 22

MASSIMO MURDOCCA
Position: Midfielder
Born: 02/09/84
Height: 165 cm
Weight: 60kg
Last Club: Carlton
Nickname: Mas
Shirt number: 21

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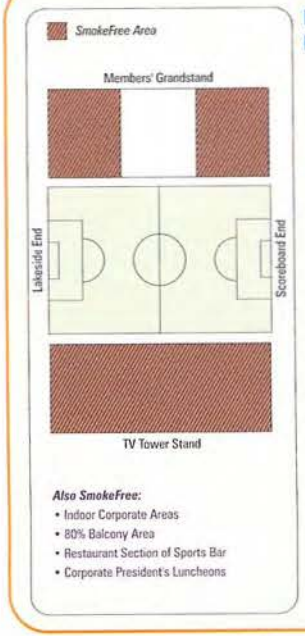

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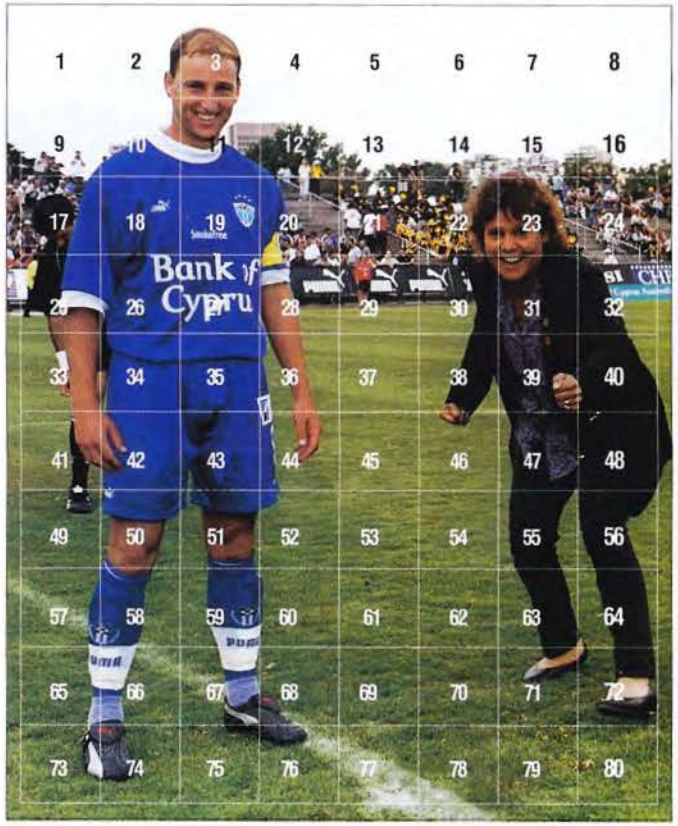

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Promoting the club is one of those areas that all of us on the Board have to bear in mind constantly. It might just be telling someone about a forthcoming game, or inviting a client to one of the President's Luncheons, or calling a radio programme to make a comment.

A lot of the work goes on unseen, but thankfully there are occasions when we're able to take the club to a much bigger audience, without the expense to which I've referred in previous columns. One such occasion is the annual St Kilda Festival, expected to attract around 350,000 people this year.

The Club has joined forces with the St Kilda Football Club to share a large area on the Esplanade, with clinics for juniors, giveaways, prize draws and personal appearances from virtually the entire playing squad. With the costs shared with our AFL counterparts, we're able to reach a large audience to promote the country's top soccer team (and a, er, slightly less successful AFL side!)

So if you're reading this at the Perth Glory game, do yourself a favour (to quote Mr Meldrum) and get down to St Kilda on the afternoon of Sunday 11th February. If you're reading this at the Marconi Stallions game, we hope that you were able to join us at some point.

Another new method of promoting the club is via the South Melbourne newspaper that you may have picked up at recent matches. This is an initiative that costs the club nothing, as it is produced by a third party. However, we hope that it gives you something interesting to read, so please try to support the advertisers who have taken space in it. Without them, the newspaper won't be able to continue, so it's worth your while.

Talking of support, one concrete thing that you can easily do as an individual supporter is to buy the products and services of the club's various sponsors. This might not mean extra expenditure, merely choosing the brand involved with the club rather than a rival.

Additionally, if you're visiting an outlet of a sponsor, why not mention that you're a South supporter? In some cases, you'll even get a discount, but more importantly, you're demonstrating that their sponsorship is valuable. Without corporate support, the club would have great difficulty in paying for the fantastic squad of players that has got us to our current league position, so remember that you get the benefit too.

I'd like to finish by reminding you about a couple of opportunities to keep up with matters at the club.

Firstly the official website, www.southmelbournesc.com.au . This is updated extremely frequently and is a fantastic source of news and information. Additionally, you can listen to live commentary of games, both home and away particularly useful for those interstate matches.

Finally, there is the third Supporters Forum for the season, which takes place at 8pm on Thursday 22nd February, at the club's Champions' Sports Bar. If you've not been to one of the earlier ones, they involve a question and answer session with four panellists representing the club.

So far, the panels have included Jim Karakoussis (Senior Vice President & Finance Director), Nick Maikousis (Vice President & Marketing Director), Peter Kakalis (Director), Peter Kartsidimas (Director), Mike Petersen (Coach), Paul Trimboli (Captain), George Christopoulos (Licenced FIFA Agent) and Jim Shoulder (European Coaching Director).

If there's anything that you want to find out about how the club operates, either on or off the field, you won't have a better opportunity to do so. All Members and supporters are cordially invited to attend.

Enjoy the game

Andrew Dye

Don't forget the date for your diaries:

South Melbourne Supporters' Forum

Your chance to ask representatives of the Club about the issues that matter to you

Thursday 22nd February 2001

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Andrew Kreskas
Scott Agustin
David Puccio

Jeff Olver - Coach
Michael Pichner Assistant Coach

Answers to Trivia Question on Page 12

1). First
2). Francis Awaretife
3). Andy Harper
4). Jim Pyrgolios
5). Kevin Muscat
6). Scott Chipperfield
7). Con Anthopoulos
8). Sheffield Wednesday
9). Vas Kalagerakos and
10). Vaughan Coveny
11). One

Round 14
Sunday 28 January 2001

South Melbourne 4 vs Albury Wodonga 1

South Melbourne Institute continued their good form of late and climbed into second spot after comfortably accounting for Albury Wodonga at Bob Jane Stadium. South were magnificent in the first half and scored all of their goals before the break. A determined Andy Vlahos got on the score sheet as well as leading NYL goalscorer Steve Manceski. South slowed the pace in the second but were always in control only conceding a consolation goal in the 54th minute.

South Melbourne 4 vs Albury-Wodonga 1
(Vince Lia 18' 44', Andy Vlahos 26', Steve Manceski 41')

South Melbourne Eagles Academy - Bye

The South Melbourne Eagles Academy had a bye this week but will clash with counterparts South Melbourne Institute at the Bob Jane Stadium on Monday, 05 February.

Round Fifteen
Monday 5 February 2001

South Melbourne Institute Vs South Melbourne Eagles Academy
(Bob Jane Stadium, 7pm)

Round Sixteen
Wednesday 7 February 2001

South Melbourne Eagles Academy Vs South Melbourne Institute
(Bob Jane Stadium, 7pm)

Leading goalscorers

Steve Manceski	**South Melbourne**	**18**
Nick Waite	Peninsula Blues	12
Denis Mustac	Eastern Pride	11
Brett Cunningham	Fawkner Blues	9
Viktor Memeti	South Dandenong	9
Daniel Debevc	Carlton	8
Arif El Dib	**South Melbourne Eagles**	**8**
Josip Loncaric	Melbourne Knights	8

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Eastern Pride	13	11	0	2	47	11	33
South Melbourne Institute	**12**	**10**	**0**	**2**	**66**	**18**	**30**
Melbourne Knights	13	10	0	3	41	16	30
VIS	14	8	1	5	31	25	25
Peninsula Blues	12	8	0	4	35	16	24
South Melbourne. Eagles	**11**	**6**	**1**	**4**	**23**	**20**	**19**
Melbourne Knights Academy	12	6	0	6	18	23	18
South Dandenong	11	5	2	4	18	17	17
Albury Wodonga	13	3	2	8	14	34	11
Bulleen Zebras	14	2	4	8	20	36	10
Fawkner Blues	13	3	1	9	20	42	10
Green Gully	12	2	3	7	13	26	9
Preston Lions	12	0	0	12	9	71	0

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JOHNNIE WALKER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

JOHNNIE WALKER PLAYER VOTES

PROGRESSIVE VOTES AFTER ROUND 16

PLAYER	VOTES
Mehmet DURAKOVIC	**13**
Patrick KISNORBO	**13**
Andy VLAHOS	11
Zeljko SUSA	9
Fausto DE AMICIS	8
Michael PETKOVIC	8
David CLARKSON	8
Vaughan COVENY	6
Vas KALOGERAKOS	6
Paul TRIMBOLI	5
Steve PANOPOULOS	4
Con BOUTSIANIS	4
Robert LIPAROTI	1

ROUND 13	3	**Patrick KISNORBO**
vs. Eastern Pride (a)	2	**David CLARKSON**
Drew 0-0	1	**Steve PANOPOULOS**
ROUND 14	3	**Vaughan COVENY**
vs. Kingz FC (h)	2	**Vas KALOGERAKOS**
Won 3-0	1	**Andy VLAHOS**
ROUND 15	3	**Vas KALOGERAKOS**
vs. Northern Spirit (a)	2	**Michael PETKOVIC**
Won 2-1	1	**Mehmet DURAKOVIC**
ROUND 16	3	**Mehmet DURAKOVIC**
vs. Adelaide Force (h)	2	**Fausto DE AMICIS**
Won 1-0	1	**Vaughan COVENY**

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*** A South Melbourne selection panel has awarded these votes.*

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OUR VISITORS - PERTH GLORY

SMSC v Perth Glory

Sunday, February 4th, 2001 5.00pm

Today we welcome Bernd Stange and Perth Glory to Bob Jane Stadium. Glory entered the National Soccer League in 1996/97 and quickly established themselves as the best supported club in the country. They made the finals in 1998/99,before losing to Sydney United in the Preliminary Final. Last season, the club finished on top of the league after the home & away season. Before a record NSL attendance of 42,764 the Glory made their first grand final by defeating the Wolves in the major semi-final. Two weeks later, in front of another record attendance of 43,242, the Glory again met the Wolves. Inspired by the massive crowd, Perth raced into a three goal half-time lead courtesy of Despotovski, Milicevic and Harnwell. Wollongong's extraordinary comeback forced a penalty shoot-out which the Wolves won 7-6. The clubs agonising defeat has no doubt provided Perth with the extra incentive to claim their inaugural championship.

During the winter, the Glory intensified their efforts at adding to an already impressive squad. Damien Mori was transferred from Adelaide Force, Brad Maloney from Marconi, Shane Pryce from Newcastle and Paul Roberts from Canberra while teenager Anthony Danze was signed from the local Perth Soccer club. James Afkos, Con Boutsianis, Troy Halpin, Aurelio Schwertz, Hamilton Thorp and Ivan Ergic have left the club. Undoubtedly the club's most impressive signing was prolific Adelaide City Force striker Damien Mori. The Melbourne-born marksman started his career with Sunshine before moving to the Knights and South Melbourne and represented Australia at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics. His career blossomed when he moved to Adelaide, scoring the only goal in the 1994 Grand Final. Last season became the NSL's highest ever goalscorer, beating the record previously held by Rod Brown. Recently scored four times in Perth's 7-2 win over Brisbane and in his current form could establish a goalscoring record that will last for many years. With the squad available, Perth will again have a big say in the destination of the championship. Jason Petkovic has established himself as the Glory number one. The ex-Adelaide Force 'keeper has represented Australia 10 times. Over-lapping full-back Robert Trajkovski has also represented Australia and previously played for Melbourne Zebras, Sydney United and Carlton. Striker Bobby Despotovski has played over 100 games for the Glory and is an unselfish player who helps creates many opportunities for teammates.

Perth started its campaign with a 1-1 draw in a grand final re-match against the Wolves. Despite three away losses in Sydney, the side's form has been impressive, particularly at home where the Glory fans have witnessed comprehensive win over Kingz (5-1), Newcastle (4-0) and Brisbane (7-2).

Coach Bernd Stange has enjoyed an extensive coaching career spanning 30 years. Stange led Carl Zeiss Jena in the East German Oberliga between 1972 and 1978, winning two titles, before leading the East German Under 21 side to the European Championship. After spells coaching the GDR's national, Olympic and under 21 teams, Carl Zeiss Jena, Hertha Berlin, Vfb Leipzig and Dnepr in Ukraine, Stange was appointed coach of Perth Glory in July 1998. Was approached by Bundesliga club Hansa Rostock during the off-season but chose to remain with the Glory.

In last season's corresponding fixture, Perth won 2-1 at BJS. In the teams' first meeting this season, the Glory won 1-0 in Perth with a tenth minute goal from Bobby Despotovski. The heated and incident-packed clash included a sending-off and two missed penalties (Steve Panopoulos and Robert Trajkovski). This is the tenth clash between South Melbourne and Perth. Glory has won six of the previous nine, South Melbourne two and one match has been drawn.

PERTH GLORY LINE-UP

1. Jason Petkovic
2. Robert Trajkovski
3. Jamie Harnwell
4. Ljubo Milicevic
5. Vinko Buljubasic
6. Gareth Naven
7. Scott Miller
8. Brad Maloney
9. Allister Edwards
10. Bobby Despotovski
11. Kasey Wehrman
12. Peter Buljan
13. Anthony Danze
14. Dion Valle
15. Edgar Alrighi
16. Damien Mori
17. Gary Faria
18. Shane Pryce
19. John Carbone
20. Anthony Franken
21. Paul Roberts
23. Craig Deans

Coach: Bernd Stange

NSL TABLE After Round 16

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	G/D
1 South Melbourne	16	10	4	1	1	32	9	37
2 Perth Glory	16	8	4	3	1	36	16	31
3 Sydney Olympic	16	8	3	4	1	25	14	30
4 Marconi Stallions	16	7	5	3	1	25	15	29
5 Wollongong Wolves	14	7	4	2	1	28	17	28
6 Parramatta Power	16	7	1	7	1	26	21	25
7 Melbourne Knights	16	6	3	6	1	29	26	24
8 Adelaide City Force	15	6	2	6	1	24	26	23
9 Sydney United	16	5	5	5	1	22	25	23
10 Canberra Cosmos	16	4	3	7	2	27	26	21
11 Northern Spirit	15	4	4	6	1	18	17	19
12 Kingz FC	16	4	4	7	1	22	26	19
13 Brisbane Strikers	16	3	4	8	1	26	31	16
14 Newcastle United	16	2	6	7	1	14	28	15
15 Eastern Pride	16	1	4	10	1	18	27	10

NSL Leading Goal Scorers

MORI Damian Perth Glory	11
THOMPSON Archie Marconi Stallions	10
BURGESS Ben Northern Spirit	9
MILLER Joe Parramatta Power	9
DESPOTOVSKI Bobby Perth Glory	8
CHIPPERFIELD Scott W'gong Wolves	7
VLAHOS Andrew South Melbourne	7
ANGELUCCI Jon Canberra Cosmos	6
DA COSTA Antonio Melbourne Knights	6
FOSTER Paul Brisbane Strikers	6
PORTER Joel Melbourne Knights	6
RECH Fernando Brisbane Strikers	6
TRIMBOLI Paul South Melbourne	6

ROUND 16 RESULTS

Northern Spirit	Vs	Sydney United	1 - 2
Kingz FC	Vs	Sydney Olympic	1 - 0
Newcastle United	Vs	Eastern Pride	1 - 0
Marconi Stallions	Vs	Parramatta	2 - 1
Perth Glory	Vs	Wollongong Wolves	1 - 1
Melbourne Knights	Vs	Brisbane Strikers	2 - 1
South Melbourne	Vs	Adelaide City	1 - 0

SOUTH MELBOURNE PLAYER STATISTICS (after Round 16)

Player	No.	Position	D.O.B.	SMSC Games	SMSC Goals	Career Games	Career Goals
Michael Petkovic	1	Goalkeeper	18-Jul-75	121	0	121	0
Steve Iosifidis	2	Defender	28-Dec-73	113	0	129	0
Fausto De Amicis	3	Defender	26-Jun-68	132	2	245	6
Mehmet Durakovic	4	Defender	13-Oct-65	154	5	286	8
Robert Liparoti	5	Defender	02-Apr-78	56	1	56	1
David Clarkson	6	Midfielder	01-Feb-68	117	6	199	16
Steve Panopoulos	7	Midfielder	23-Jun-75	175	23	175	23
Vaughan Coveny	8	Striker	13-Dec-71	163	47	229	66
Paul Trimboli	9	Striker	13-Aug-68	366	103	388	106
Con Boutsianis	10	Midfielder	27-Dec-71	157	49	226	81
John Anastasiadis	11	Striker	13-Aug-68	91	30	113	30
Richie Alagich	12	Midfielder	30-Oct-73	14	0	131	4
Andy Vlahos	13	Striker	20-Apr-76	23	9	123	35
Vas Kalogeracos	14	Striker	21-03-75	13	3	73	25
Goran Lozanovski	15	Midfielder	11-Jan-74	76	14	197	22
Zeljko Susa	16	Midfielder	13-Jul-78	15	2	83	11
Rade Culibrk	17	Defender	19-Jul-82	2	0	2	0
Elias Demourtzidis	18	Striker	25-Jun-81	1	0	8	2
Patrick Kisnorbo	19	Defender	24-Mar-81	15	0	15	0
Chris Jones	20	Goalkeeper	10-Jul-75	26	0	26	0
Massimo Murdocca	21	Midfielder	02-Sep-84	2	0	2	0
Steve Esposito	22	Defender	08-Jan-84	0	0	0	0
Michael Theoklitos	23	Goalkeeper	11-Feb-81	0	0	0	0
Nick Tolios	24	Defender	11-Oct-81	0	0	2	0
Simon Colosimo	25	Defender	08-Jan-79	3	0	53	10

ROUND 17 MATCHES

Friday, 02 February

Parramatta Vs Melbourne Knights
Brisbane Strikers Vs Newcastle United

Saturday, 03 February

Canberra Cosmos Vs Marconi Stallions
Eastern Pride Vs Auckland Kingz

Sunday, 04 February

South Melbourne Vs Perth Glory
Sydney United Vs Adelaide City

SMSC Leading Goal Scorers

Vlahos Andy	7
Trimboli Paul	6
Coveny Vaughan	5
Kalogeracos Vas	3
Lozanovski Goran	2
Boutsianis Con	2
Susa Zeljko	2
Anastasiadis John	1
Panopoulos Steve	1
De Amicis Fausto	1

SMSC v Marconi Stallions

Sunday, February 18, 2001 5.00pm

MARCONI STALLIONS LINE-UP

1. David Aceski (gk)
2. Chad Gibson
3. Mark Babic
4. Angelo Costanzo
5. Dominic Longo
6. Pan Keun Kim
7. James Afkos
8. Darren Mcdonald
9. Norman Tome
10. John Maisano
11. Christian Care
12. Sasa Radulovic
13. Raphael Bove
14. Buddy Farah
15. Royce Brownlie
16. Harry Karl
17. John Gibson
18. Mike Smith
19. Brendan Renaud
20. Michael Turnbull
21. Simon H. Bell
22. Kris Trajanovski
23. Vlado Zoric
24. Josaia Sauturaga Junior
25. Archie Thompson
27. Grant Last

Coach: Eddie Krncevic

Today we welcome Eddie Krncevic and his Marconi Stallions to Bob Jane Stadium. The club from Sydney's Western Suburbs finished sixth last season and qualified for its fifth consecutive finals campaign. The Stallions were bitterly disappointed to bow out of the championship race so quickly after losing their Elimination Final to Carlton 3-0 on aggregate. Expectations are always high at a club that along with Sydney City and South Melbourne has won a record four championships (1979, 1988, 1989 and 1992/93) and is one of only three clubs to have been a permanent member of the NSL since its inception in 1977.

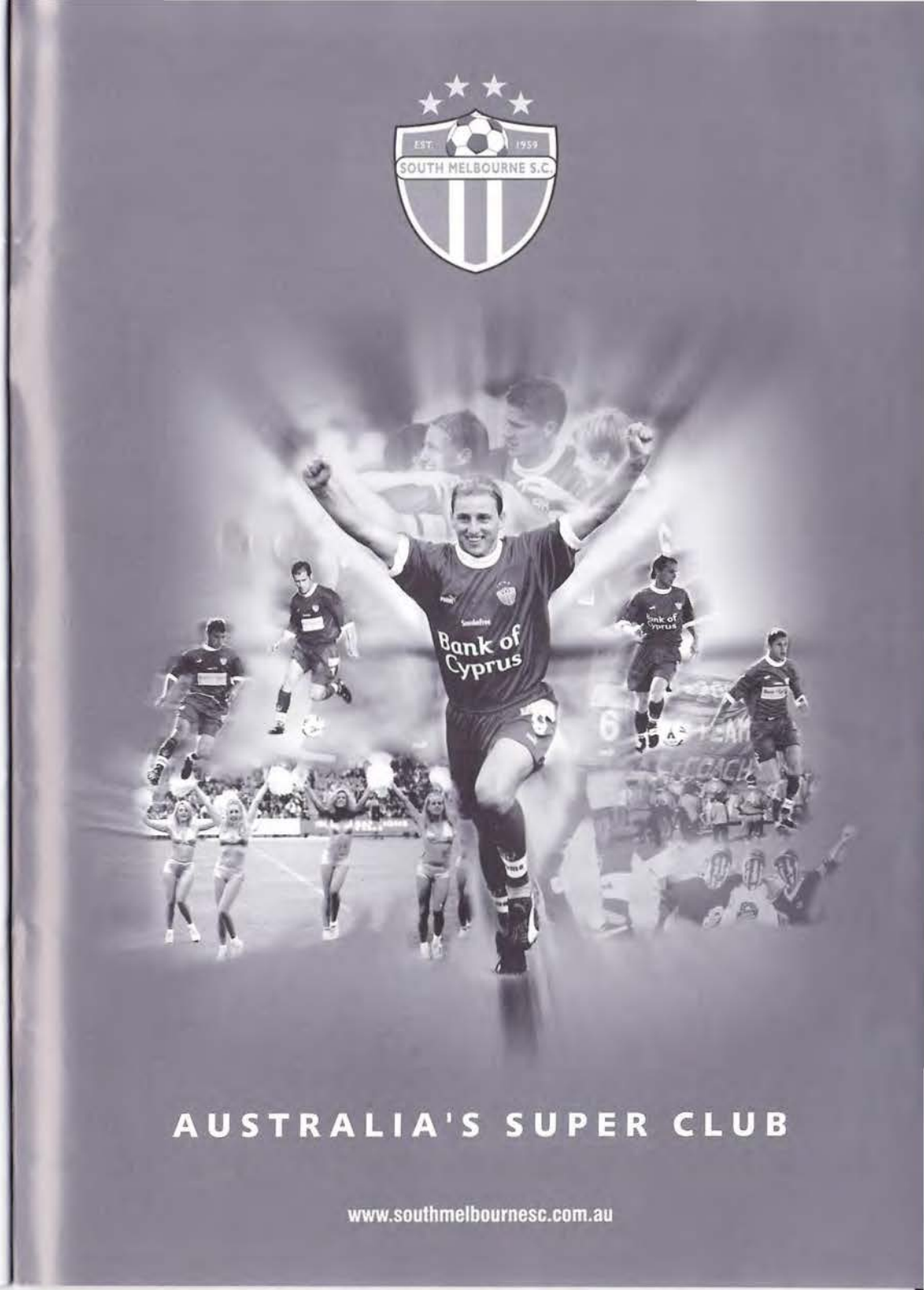
This season's Stallions line-up shows many changes from the 1999/2000 version. Sean Babic has left the club, former captain, and 1998/99 NSL Player of the Year, Brad Maloney has moved to Perth, veteran ex-South Melbourne striker Francis Awaritefe has moved to local rivals Sydney United and Danny Invincibile has transferred to Swindon Town. In their place, the Stallions have brought in ex-Adelaide Force defender Angelo Costanzo, prolific strikers Norman Tome and John Maisano, defender James Afkos from Perth, Sasa Radulovic, Raphael Bove and John Gibson. Exciting striker Archie Thompson joined the club after Carlton's demise and has been trialling with Anderlecht.

Despite the changes, Marconi's squad has more than enough experience and talent to make the finals. Centre-Back and Captain Dominic Longo was born in Tasmania and played his junior football with Hobart Juventus. After playing for Blacktown City, St George and Newcastle in the NSL between 1989 and 1992, Longo moved to Belgium where he spent three seasons with Cercle Brugge before returning to Australia in 1995/96 to join Marconi. Has represented Australia at Under 16 (captaining Australia at the 1987 Under-16 World Youth Championships in Canada), Under 20, Olympic and senior level. Longo has played 13 times for the Socceroos. Nineteen-year-old goalkeeper Michael Turnbull joined the club last season after representing Australia at the Under-20 World Cup in Nigeria in 1999. Made 29 appearances in his debut season. Other talented players include left-back Brendan Renaud, skillful midfield play-maker Vlado Zoric, tenacious midfielder Darren Mcdonald, striker Kris Trajanovski, experienced defender Mark Babic and sweeper Pan Keun Kim who was recruited from Hyundai Tigers and captained South Korea at USA'94.

Marconi's form has been inconsistent this season, winning 2-0 at Parramatta, 1-0 in Perth (with a goal by Afkos) and 4-1 at the Knights but they have also dropped points at home to Adelaide Force , Olympic, Sydney United and Newcastle.

Eddie Krncevic replaced Frank Farina as Marconi coach in August 1999 after the latter was appointed Socceroo coach. Krncevic began his career in Melbourne before transferring to Marconi. Came to prominence after representing Australia at the 1981 World Youth Cup. Krncevic became one of the first Aussies to transfer to a European club, moving to Dynamo Zagreb in 1982. After helping Dinamo win two championships and one cup played at MSV Duisburg, Cercle Brugge, Anderlecht (where he was top league scorer in 1988/89), Liege, Charleroi, Mulhouse and Eendracht Aalst before returning to the NSL with Gippsland Falcons. Was appointed coach of Carlton, taking the club to the grand final in its inaugural season where it lost to South Melbourne. Played 35 games and scored 17 goals for the Socceroos between 1979 and 1989.

In the corresponding fixture last season, Marconi won 2-1 at BJS. The two clubs met in round 4 this season at Bossley Park. Paul Trimboli scored for South and Brendan Renaud for Marconi in a 1-1 draw. This is the 47th match between these two rivals. In the head-to-head record, Marconi has won 21, South Melbourne 16 with nine draws. The goals for-and-against is 78-62 in Marconi's favour.



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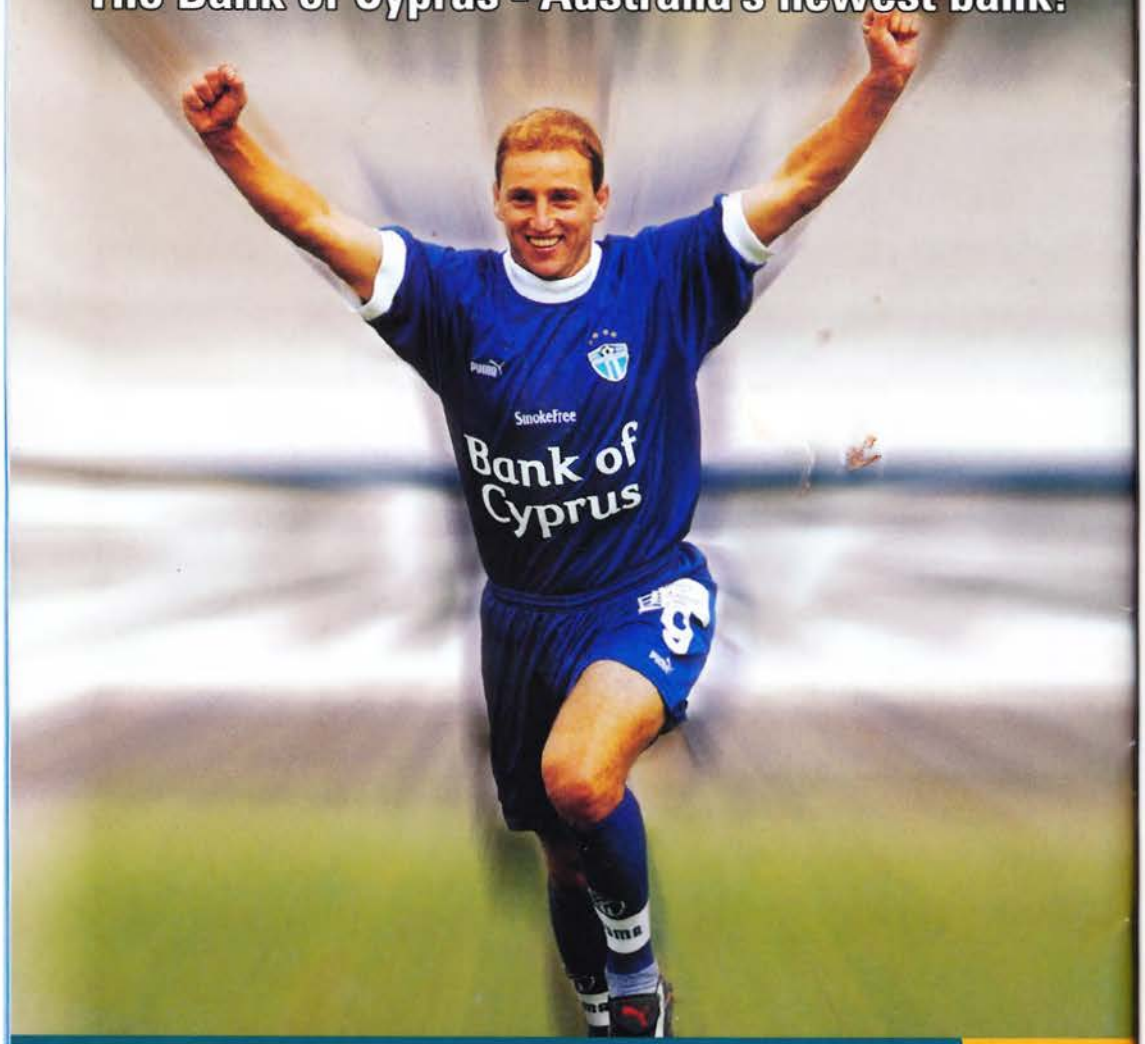

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